

The U.S. Alliance for Technology and Engineering for Automotive Manufacturing: The U.S. A-TEAM

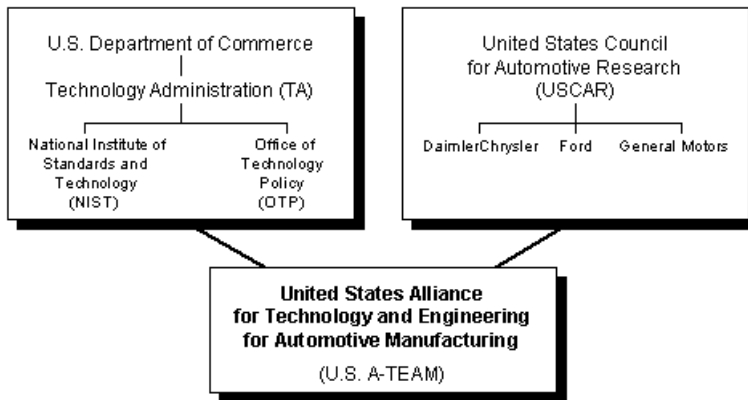
A Pre-Competitive Research Partnership Focused on Manufacturing Technology

Key Elements of the U.S. A-TEAM Agreement

Memorandum of Agreement

The U.S. Alliance for Technology and Engineering for Automotive Manufacturing (U.S. A-TEAM) is a government-industry partnership formed to further strengthen the technology base of the domestic auto industry through cooperative, pre-competitive research directed at improving the manufacturing competitiveness of the U.S. automotive industry. The partnership is memorialized in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States Council for Automotive Research (USCAR)—representing DaimlerChrysler, Ford, and General Motors—and the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Technology Administration. Two of the Technology Administration’s agencies—the Office of Technology Policy (TA/OTP) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (TA/NIST)—will participate in the partnership.

Organization Chart



Focus

- Research focus on manufacturing technology
- Exchange of information on technical activities
- Initial focus areas for technical cooperation between USCAR and NIST:
 - Digital/virtual tools
 - Plant floor controllers
 - Ergonomics
- From this initial list, the partners intend to expand the scope of collaborative activities potentially affecting the manufacturing competitiveness of the U.S. automotive industry.

Organization

The activities of the U.S. A-TEAM will be guided by a high-level government-industry steering group comprised of:

- Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology
- Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Technology Policy
- Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Manufacturing and Services
- Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Advanced Manufacturing Vice Presidents of Ford, GM and Daimler Chrysler

Other Key Provisions

Other key provisions of the agreement include:

- The partnership's day-to-day operations will be managed by a government secretariat, housed in the Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce, and an industry secretariat housed at USCAR.
- USCAR will provide an office and support services for a NIST liaison at its headquarters in Southfield, Michigan.
- The partnership will conduct meetings, seminars, conferences, and other fora relevant to manufacturing technology and public policy issues affecting the competitiveness of the U.S. automotive industry.
- The Technology Administration will serve as the portal for other Federal agencies interested in participating in the partnership.
- The agreement is scheduled to terminate on September 30, 2009.

MORE INFORMATION:

[Memorandum of Agreement](#) (pdf format)

[Press Release](#)

[Media Advisory](#)